

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 081259

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, MPOL

SUBJECT: NATO LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM (LTDP)

1. THE WORK OF PREPARING A CHALLENGING REPORT FOR
MINISTERS/SUMMIT ON A LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM IS OFF TO
A GOOD START UNDER DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL PETRIGNANI.
IT IS NOW IMPORTANT THAT THIS INITIAL MOMENTUM BE
CONTINUED. WITH THIS OBJECTIVE, AMBASSADOR SHOULD
APPROACH LUNS AND PETRIGNANI SEPARATELY, DRAWING ON THE
FOLLOWING MATERIAL AS APPROPRIATE.

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2. FOR USE WITH LUNS:

-- WE WERE VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE EFFECTIVE CHAIRMANSHIP
OF DEP SYG PETRIGNANI IN THE RECENT EWG DISCUSSION OF THE
LTDP. SINCE THE LTDP WILL BE THE CENTERPIECE OF THE
SECOND DAY OF THE SUMMIT, WE HOPE HE WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE

PRIME ATTENTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LTDP AND THE RELATED REPORT TO MINISTERS/SUMMIT.

-- ONCE APPROVED AT THE SUMMIT, THE LTDP WILL REQUIRE MUCH CLOSER ALLIED COLLABORATION AND COOPERATION IN SEVERAL FIELDS: BETWEEN NATO AUTHORITIES AND NATIONAL AUTHORITIES, BETWEEN NATO CIVIL AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES,

AND BETWEEN VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF DEALING WITH DEFENSE MATTERS. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT SOME ONE SENIOR PERSON KEEP CLOSE WATCH OVER THIS COOPERATIVE EFFORT.

-- WE NEED TO ENSURE THAT THE 165 BILLION ODD DOLLARS BEING SPENT EACH YEAR FOR NATO DEFENSE EFFECTIVELY SUPPORTS THE IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED ALONG AGREED LINES. THE US BELIEVES THAT AMBASSADOR PETRIGNANI, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE EWG AND AS YOUR DEPUTY, SHOULD BE THE ONE TO CARRY OUT THIS TASK.

-- WE ALSO THINK IT MIGHT BE HELPFUL IF YOU WOULD BEGIN TO BRING THE DPC PERMREPS INTO THE PICTURE NOW, SO THAT THEY WILL HAVE A WORKING BASIS FOR DEALING WITH THE DRAFT REPORT AS IT EMERGES FROM THE EWG TOWARDS THE END OF APRIL. AMBASSADOR PETRIGNANI MIGHT BRIEFLY INFORM THE DPC OF THE APPROACH BEING TAKEN
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AND THE PROGRESS BEING MADE.

3. FOR USE WITH PETRIGNANI FOLLOWING ON, AND AS APPROPRIATE IN LIGHT OF, APPROACH TO LUNS (IN ADDITION TO SUCH OF ABOVE AS YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE):

-- WE SEE LTDP AS LEADING TO A NEW STAGE OF MORE COLLECTIVE NATO DEFENSE PLANNING. THIS WOULD BE ONE MARKED BY MUCH GREATER COOPERATIVE EFFORTS WITH THE AIM OF GETTING GREATER EFFECTIVENESS FROM THE MORE THAN \$165 BILLION BEING DEVOTED ANNUALLY TO NATO DEFENSE. WE HAVE ALREADY ACHIEVED SOME DEGREE OF COOPERATION IN DEFENSE PLANNING AS A RESULT OF CLOSER CONTACTS BETWEEN NATIONAL AND NATO PLANNERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF TASK FORCE REPORTS FOR THE LTDP. THE CONTINUING TASK, ON WHICH THE SUCCESS OF THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM WILL ULTIMATELY DEPEND, WILL BE THAT OF INCREASING AND EXTENDING THE SPHERE OF COOPERATION IN PLANNING SO THAT THERE CAN BE A FULLY INTEGRATED ACTION PROGRAM WITH NO WASTE EFFORT AND ONLY NECESSARY OVERLAP.

-- WE WANT TO ASSIST YOU AS THE KEY LEADER IN THIS WORK

IN WHATEVER WAY WE CAN. YOUR LEADERSHIP SHOULD INSURE COORDINATION AMONG THE PRINCIPAL INTERNATIONAL STAFF OFFICIALS DEALING WITH DEFENSE MATTERS, AMONG THE HIGHER NATO MILITARY AND CIVILIAN OFFICIALS, AND BETWEEN NATO AND NATIONAL OFFICIALS. SIMPLY LEAVING MATTERS TO THEIR OWN DEVICES WILL LEAVE US FACING THE SAME FRAGMENTATION IN DEFENSE MATTERS WHICH HAS MARKED MUCH OF NATO'S HISTORY.

-- THE DEFENSE MINISTERS AND THE NATIONS ARE TRYING TO ATTAIN AN ANNUAL REAL INCREASE OF THREE PERCENT IN DEFENSE SPENDING. OUR NATO TASK IS TO ENSURE THAT DEFENSE FUNDS WILL BE SPENT PROPERLY AND EFFECTIVELY. THIS MEANS THAT THE NATO PLANNING GOALS AND ACTION
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PROGRAMS FOR BOTH NATO FORCES AND SUPPORTING OR RELATED PROGRAMS MUST BE INTEGRATED UNDER AGREED PRIORITIES. HENCE, WE ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO YOUR POSITION AND EFFORTS AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP AND AS THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT CONCERNED WITH NATO DEFENSE MATTERS.

-- WE OF COURSE WOULD BE HAPPY TO ASSIST YOU IN ANY WAY YOU SEE USEFUL. INDEED, WE FEEL STRONGLY THAT NATO CIVIL AND MILITARY MACHINERY MUST BE STRENGTHENED IN GENERAL IF THE LTDP IS TO BE EFFECTIVELY CARRIED OUT.

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